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**DATA ON CHILDREN
IS TERMED ABUSED**

**Panel Is Told Police, Banks
and Others Get Records**

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WASHINGTON, June 19 —
education researchers told Senate investigators today that the scholastic, psychological and medical data collected by local schools on 45 million American children sometimes find their way into data banks used by the police, banks, employers and credit bureaus.

Stanley J. Salett and Stuart A. Sandow of the National Committee for Citizens in Education urged passage of Federal laws to stop the practice, since only five states, including New York, specifically prohibit it.

Mr. Salett said that in addition to common school records giving data on grades and attendance, "there is another set, so-called cumulative records, which are grab bags filled with test scores, medical and psychological reports, comments on behavior reports from outside agencies and a broad variety of other information which educators believe is relevant to learning."

"Our studies have found that, for the most part, parents and students do not realize that such records exist," he added. "These same records, however, are available to a broad variety of local, state and Federal agencies as well as to such private organizations as banks, employers and even credit bureaus."

His comments were made before the Senate Government Operations Subcommittee on Privacy and Information Systems, which is holding hearings on proposed legislation intended to preserve the privacy of information collected by the Government.

I.R.S. Is Criticized

A group of "right to privacy" bills has been introduced in both houses of Congress.

Vice President Ford supported such legislation to prevent "the abuses of a wire society" in a letter delivered today to Senator Sam J. Ervin Jr., chairman of the subcommittee.

Mr. Ford said "the time has come" to restrict the use and accumulation by the Government of records collected on citizens, and that only that data needed to protect the public and provide necessary services should be collected.

The subcommittee was also told by Dr. Martin A. Larson, representing a conservative group called the Liberty Lobby, that the Federal Government in general and the Internal Revenue Service in particular collected enormous amounts of private information about taxpayers in violation of constitutional guarantees of privacy.

Mr. Salett of the National

Committee for Citizens in Education, which he characterized as a nonpartisan, nonprofit group that sought to increase interest in public schools, presented findings of a survey of school records that it had conducted.

"The sheer size of many school systems is spurring the tendency toward automated information systems," he said. "And now there are ominous signs that these automated systems are being plugged into other major data collection systems on individuals — into that growing web of compassionless computers maintained by policy departments, welfare agencies, insurance companies, military services and so many others."

Children Are Labeled

He said "thousands of children have been labeled as 'pre-delinquents' in school and criminal information systems," one of which is in operation in Los Angeles.

As another example, he said that in Maryland teachers who may have little or no psychological training were being asked to determine personality disorders in children, such as paranoid or schizoid behavior. The results, he said, are encoded on punched cards and used by state agencies.

He added that the committee had discovered similar systems in Michigan and California, and that "there are probably more."

In conclusion, Mr. Salett said, "While the majority of educational decisions may wisely be left to the states, any issue of individual rights involves us all, wherever we may live, and must be secured through Federal legislation."